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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable WILLIAM M. COWAN, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, we believe, but we need You to remove our doubts. As our lawmakers face daunting challenges, give them an unwavering faith that will not shrink when facing obstacles. Imbue them with greater patience, and make them constant in their commitment to do Your will. Lord, help them to cast their cares on You and leave to You the consequences of their faithful service. Prosper all they do today in accordance with Your will and with Your almighty power. Annul and overrule any poor decisions they make.

Lord, thank You for the faithful service of Senator Mo COWAN. Bless him as he prepares to leave the Senate.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 26, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable WILLIAM M. COWAN, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. COWAN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks the Senate will resume consideration of the immigration bill. The time until 11:30 will be equally divided between the two managers. The filing deadline for all second-degree amendments to both the substitute and the bill is 10:30 today. At 11:30 there will be three rolloft votes on the motion to waive the applicable budget points of order, the adoption of the Leahy amendment, as modified, and the cloture vote on the committee-reported substitute amendment.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I think it is appropriate that I say just a word or two about the eight Senators who have worked to get us to the point where we are now. I was thinking this morning that this is really America at its best. Each one of those eight Senators does not know, as I do not know, whether this work they have done is going to help them or hurt them in their political careers. But this is one of those opportunities where I am confident that they believe they are doing it for the right reasons no matter what the political consequences are.

We have a broken immigration system. They have led us to a path to be able to fix it—but for them we would

continue with this broken immigration system—which, as we know now from the reports we got from the Congressional Budget Office, is going to help tremendously reduce our deficit for the next two decades by \$1 trillion—\$1 trillion.

When people came before this legislation and said: We have to do this legislation because it is good for the security of this Nation and good for the economy, people really did not know if they were speaking the truth. Well, we know now. That is absolutely true. It improves the security. We see what is going to happen with the border. We are going to have 40,000 Border Patrol agents. We are going to have all methods to make sure that border is secure and the northern border is secure. In addition to that, it is going to improve our economy significantly.

I applaud and congratulate those eight Senators for the remarkably good work they have done.

It was 6 a.m. when immigration officials came to take Maria Espinoza's husband away in handcuffs. She walked out the front door to hand her husband his lunch money and watched as he was loaded in a truck and carted to an immigration detention center. That is a fancy word for a jail. He was not a criminal. He works hard, pays his taxes, and he is a good father and a good husband. But Jorge is in the country without the proper immigration paperwork, so he spent a month in this jail. Maria, who is also an undocumented immigrant, was also set to be deported but was able to remain at home with her teenage daughter, who is, by the way, a U.S. citizen. Maria and Jorge were basically able to secure a stay of deportation, but they live with the fear that they will be torn away from their family and deported to a country they have not set foot in in 25 years.

They came from Mexico. They have made their home in Las Vegas. They have been there for 25 years—almost as

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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